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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/728,090  
Applicant : Giuseppe C. Viscomi et al  
Filed : December 5, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 1614  
Examiner : B. Kifle

Docket No. : 2965-186  
Customer No. : 06449  
Confirmation No. : 7305

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Director of the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

July 28, 2005

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.